(d) Does not arise.

Cotton Yield

1515. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the world average of cotton yield is well over 550 kgs. per hectare whereas in India, it is around 266 kgs. per hectare; and

(b) what action Government are going to take to increase the yield of cotton in India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S.B.P.B.K. SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In order to increase the yield of cotton in the country, the Government of India has recently approved the implementation of a Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Technology Mission of Cotton. Under the Mission, the existing Intensive Cotton Development Programme has been modified to increase the yield of cotton in the country. Assistance will be provided for the transfer of technology through field demonstration, Integrated Pest Management (IPM) demonstration and training of farmers and extension workers. Besides, assistance is given for the use of critical inputs such as delinted seeds of newer varieties, sprayers, pheromone traps, bioagents, sprinkler/drip irrigation system etc.

Cold Storages in States

†1516. DR. D. MASTHAN:
SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated a scheme to construct cold-storages of 5000 ton capacity in the country;

(b) if so, what is the detailed outline of the scheme;

(c) whether States have been identified for constructing said coldstorages; and

(d) if so, the names of such States alongwith the capacity of these cold storages decided to be set up?

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.